

MARVEL

EATON
KARAMI
DALHOUSE

BLACK PANTHER

**BLOOD
HUNT**

2

OF THREE



SORREN
0.24

RATED T+

JEFFREY VEREGGE



Jeffrey Veregge, 50, passed away April 12, 2024, after a courageous battle with lupus. A member of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Veregge created a style he called "Salish geek," which combined Native American art, graphic design and comic-book heroes. His striking covers on *Red Wolf* and *Heroes Reborn* stood out from everything else on comic shelves. In 2018, The Smithsonian opened Veregge's exhibition "Of Gods and Heroes," which included his epic mural for the Museum of the Native American in New York. His work on comic covers and in public spaces leave a fantastic legacy that will long be remembered. Our hearts go out to his family and friends.



T'CHALLA USED TO BE THE KING OF WAKANDA UNTIL THE NATION BECAME A DEMOCRACY AND EXILED THEIR FORMER RULER. BUT AS THE BLACK PANTHER, EMPOWERED BY THE HEART-SHAPED HERB AND THE CHAMPION OF THE GODDESS BAST, HE REMAINS WAKANDA'S PROTECTOR...

BLACK PANTHER

BLOOD HUNT

PREVIOUSLY

The **DARKFORCE DIMENSION** has erupted and created an eternal night—allowing vampires everywhere to launch a brutal attack against humanity! **BLADE** leads the vampires—and when his **BLOODCOVEN** attacked the **AVENGERS**, **BLACK PANTHER** was turned into a vampire and sent to Wakanda in search of a hidden temple that is key to Blade's plan! But the panther goddess **BAST** has a message of warning for T'Challa...

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Note: This issue takes place before the events of **BLOOD HUNT #3**.

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

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EONS AGO.
THE FIRST
BLASPHEMY.

WE SHOULD NOT
HAVE COME HERE.

NO!
PLEASE!

THE **STRANGER** SAID THERE WAS
A BOUNTY TO BE FOUND ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER.

HE SHONE WITH **ORNAMENTS**
THE LIKES OF WHICH WE HAD
NEVER SEEN. MORE BRILLIANT THAN
GOLD. STRONGER THAN **IRON**.

HE SAID IT COULD ALL
BE OURS IF WE
WOULD FOLLOW HIM.

WE DID NOT KNOW THE
METAL WOULD SERVE
AS OUR **CHAINS**.

KHONSHU!
PROTECT ME! GUIDE
ME TO FREEDOM!

KHONSHU
HAS NO CLAIM
HERE! THIS LAND
AND THIS *TEMPLE*
ARE *MINE*!

NO!

SCHRRRRRIPPP

AND
SO ARE
YOU!

YOUR BLOOD
AND THIS LAND'S
METAL SHALL SERVE AS
MY *GATE*. MY *THRONE*
AWAITS ME ON THE
OTHER SIDE!

I WILL
BECOME A
GOD SOON
ENOUGH!



NO BLOOD
OF A FOLLOWER
IS SHED IN VAIN,
MY CHILD. YOUR
DEATH WILL BE
AVENGED.

STAY
YOUR HAND,
KHONSHU.



THE DEMON
ACTS AS IF A GOD,
BAST! HE MUST
BE BROUGHT
DOWN!

BY YOU?
KHONSHU OF
THE **ENNEAD**?* AND
WHAT WILL THE **ORISHA****
SAY IF YOU EXERT YOUR
POWER IN A LAND
UNSPOKEN FOR?

I SPEAK
FOR OUR
PEOPLE!

AND
THEIRS AS
WELL!

*EAST AFRICAN PANTHEON.

**WEST AFRICAN PANTHEON.

IF YOU ACT
ALONE, IT WILL BE
SEEN AS A GREAT OFFENSE.
CALL THE OTHERS. BEFORE
YOU FOOLISHLY START
A **WAR** BETWEEN
THE **GODS**.



NOW.
MSITU WA DHABIHU.
WAKANDAN
NATURE
PRESERVE.
SUNDEATH:
29:08:25.



YOU HAVE
DISAPPOINTED ME,
T'CHALLA.



BAST!

FOLLOW
ME.





THESE
WATERS WERE
ONCE BARREN
LAND.

ANUKET
FLOODED THE
REGION AS A
GIFT TO WAKANDA.
A CONSOLATION
FOR HAVING
LEFT THIS REALM
UNPROTECTED.

THE **ORISHA**
AND THE **ENNEAD**
VOWED THAT WOULD
NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

AND YET HERE
YOU ARE. THE **LAST**
OF THE **FIRST**. POISONED
BY THE VENOM OF **VARNAE**.
ALL DUE TO OUR LACK
OF DILIGENCE.

BECAUSE THAT
IS WHAT YOU ARE.
YOUR PEOPLE--**YOUR**
LINE--WERE THE
FIRST PEOPLE
OF THIS LAND.

THE LAST OF
THE FIRST. BLADE
ALSO CALLED ME
THAT. WHY?



WE DID NOT
KNOW MANKIND WOULD
BE SO INQUISITIVE AS TO
INSPECT THE DARKEST
WILDERNESS!

THE
WAKANDAN QUEST
FOR KNOWLEDGE
WAS INITIALLY YOUR
DOWNFALL. BUT IT
LATER BECAME
YOUR **GREATEST**
TRIUMPH.





IT WAS **KHONSHU** WHO DISCOVERED THAT THE **FIRST** HAD BEEN ENSLAVED BY **VARNAE**. THE DEMON HAD STOLEN **VIBRANIUM** FROM THE FIRES OF **PTAH** AND DARED TO USE THE METAL FOR SHACKLES TO BIND MANKIND AND A **GATE** FROM WHICH TO ASCEND TO **GODHOOD**.

THE DEMON TOILED FOR MANY NIGHTS UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS, BUT WHEN THAT **SHINING METAL** SNARED THE LIGHT OF THE **FULL MOON**, **KHONSHU** WAS MADE AWARE OF **VARNAE'S** MACHINATIONS AND WAS COMPELLED TO INTERVENE.

SUCH A DESECRATION COULD NOT GO **UNAVENGED**.

AND SO, WHEN **RA** SUBMERGED ONCE MORE IN SLUMBER, THOSE OF US WHO GUARD THE NIGHT GATHERED BENEATH THE **CRESTING MOON**.

KHONSHU

GHEKRE

PTAH

ESHU

BAST

A TEMPLE?
WITH A GATE MADE
FROM MY ORE?!
THIS CANNOT
STAND!

BEFORE WE
ACT! I WILL BE
JOINING YOU--
BEST BELIEVE
THAT!

AND IT WILL
NOT. BUT I WANTED
THE GODS OF THE
SURROUNDING REALMS
TO BE MADE AWARE
BEFORE I ACT. AS
A SHOW OF
RESPECT.

VERY WELL,
PTAH. DOES
ANYONE ELSE WISH
TO ACCOMPANY
US?

I WILL GO.
YOU'LL NEED EYES
ON THE GROUND
BEFORE THE BATTLE.
MY PROGENY
WILL OBSERVE.

HRM. GHEKRE
WILL ATTEND AS WELL.
THE ORISHA DESERVE
A REPRESENTATIVE.
THEY SHALL HAVE
ONE IN ME.

FSSSSSSSSSST

THEY
WILL HAVE
TWO!

KOKOU THE
EVER-BURNING
WILL JOIN
ALSO!

ARE YOU CERTAIN?
YOU ARE A GOD OF
WAR. YOUR PRESENCE
WOULD BE A FORMAL
DECLARATION. A CLAIM TO
SERVE AS A GUARDIAN
OF THAT--AS OF NOW--
UNCLAIMED LAND.

SO BE
IT! VARNAE
MUST KNOW
THAT NO DEMON
SHALL EVER ATTAIN
GODHOOD. IT IS
WE WHO HOLD
DOMINION OVER
THIS WORLD AND
MANKIND.

ONLY THROUGH
TRICKERY AND THEFT
CAN ANY DEMON WIELD A
FRACTION OF OUR POWER.
HE WILL LEARN OUR TRUE
MIGHT BY FEELING ITS
BRUNT FORCE.

OUR MISTAKE WAS THAT WE FOCUSED ON VARNAE'S DEFEAT RATHER THAN HIS DESTRUCTION. HIS BODY WAS NEVER RECOVERED--NOR WAS HIS TEMPLE. THAT CARELESSNESS LEFT THE POSSIBILITY FOR HIS RETURN.

AND NOW HE HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THAT OPPORTUNITY. BUT HE WILL NOT HAVE THAT ADVANTAGE FOR LONG.

ANUKET.

MY SISTER, I KNOW THAT YOU HEAR ME. PLEASE. COME.

SPLASH

YOUR TROUBLES MUST BE PLENTY TO SEEK ONE SUCH AS ME!

INDEED. I AIM TO FIGHT FIRE WITH FLOOD.

AND WHAT BLAZE AM I TO PUT OUT?

VARNAE. THE DEMON'S PROGENY HAS RALLIED. ONE OF THEM HAS TURNED MY CHAMPION.

ANUKET.

PITY. HE IS A BEAUTY.



YOU HAVE
YET TO TELL ME
WHAT I AM TO
DO, BAST!

VARNAE'S
TEMPLE MUST BE
DESTROYED. AND
QUICKLY, BEFORE HIS
CHILDREN LEARN
OF ITS TRUE
POWER.



IS THAT NOT WHAT I SAID
EONS AGO BEFORE IT WAS
CAST INTO DARK WATERS
FAR PAST MY DOMINION?
AND NOW YOU EXPECT
ME TO DO THIS?!

NO.



I EXPECT
HIM TO.

OH.

VERY WELL.
THAT CAN BE
ARRANGED.

"BUT LET THIS BE
A LESSON ABOUT
LOOSE ENDS."



BIRNIN
ZANA.

EH 0/0

SUNDEATH:
29:22:54.

YOUR LACK OF
KNOWLEDGE REGARDING
T'CHALLA'S WHEREABOUTS
IS OF CONCERN, SHURI.
WAKANDANS ARE NOT
KNOWN TO LEAVE
LOOSE ENDS.

THESE ARE
TRYING TIMES. AND
AS YOUR PEOPLE ARE
KNOWN TO SAY, "AM
I MY BROTHER'S
KEEPER?"

AFTER ALL,
WAKANDA IS
NOW A FREE
NATION.

HOW *FREE* IS
IT IF THE ELITE OF YOUR
LAND SEEK DOOM'S ASSISTANCE
TO *ESCAPE* IT? IT SUGGESTS
THAT TO BE BEHOLDEN TO A
KING IS PREFERABLE
TO A SMALL EXISTENCE
PLAGUED BY
DEMONS, NO?

IS *LATVERIA* NOT
THE TRUE FREE NATION? DOOM'S
PEOPLE HAVE NO FEAR OF THE DARKNESS!
YET WAKANDA COWERS BENEATH A PROVISIONAL
CONSTRUCT TO BEG *DOOM* FOR PROTECTION.
PROTECTION THAT YOUR HASTILY COBBLED
ARTIFICIAL SUN FAILS TO ADEQUATELY PROVIDE.

YOU HAVE DONE A FORMIDABLE JOB IN KEEPING THE ENERGIES OF THE **DARKFORCE DIMENSION** AT BAY. I CAN ADMIT THAT **LATVERIA** IS THE SAFEST REGION BY FAR--



THEN YOU CAN SEE WHY DOOM WOULD NOT BE AMENABLE TO SUBJECTING THIS LAND TO THE POTENTIAL RISK OF REFUGEES. SINCE YOU HAVE STATED THAT YOU ARE UNAWARE OF YOUR BROTHER'S LOCATION OR CONDITION, T'CHALLA SERVES AS AN ERRANT FACTOR. AND THE PEOPLE OF WAKANDA SERVE AS HIS SIREN SONG.



THEY SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BREACH LATVERIA'S BORDERS ONLY FOR A COMPROMISED KING TO ARRIVE AT THEIR HEELS. UNTIL YOU CAN BE MORE FORTHCOMING REGARDING T'CHALLA'S STATUS, DOOM CONSIDERS THESE TALKS CONCLUDED.

...

PRINCESS?

I AM FINE, OLUCHI. WE ARE FINE. I WILL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT. I ALWAYS DO.



"THERE IS STILL TIME."

WAKANDA.
THE DISTANT
PAST.

PERHAPS
WE ARE TOO
LATE.

NONSENSE,
GHEKRE. THE SCENT
OF MAN IS IN
THE AIR.

YES, BUT IT IS
QUIET. TOO QUIET.
A PLACE BEREFT OF
SOUND IS BEREFT
OF LIFE.

HMMPH! YOU
FEAR SO MUCH TO
BE SO BIG! WHAT
CREATURE BORNE OF
A DEMON COULD
STAND AGAINST
A GOD?

EH?

FSST
FSST
FSST

FSST
FSST

FSST
FSST

YOU WISH
TO KNOW
WHO'D CHALLENGE
A GOD?

WELL,
LET US
SEE!



THEN
LOOK CLOSELY
AT YOUR
DEMISE!

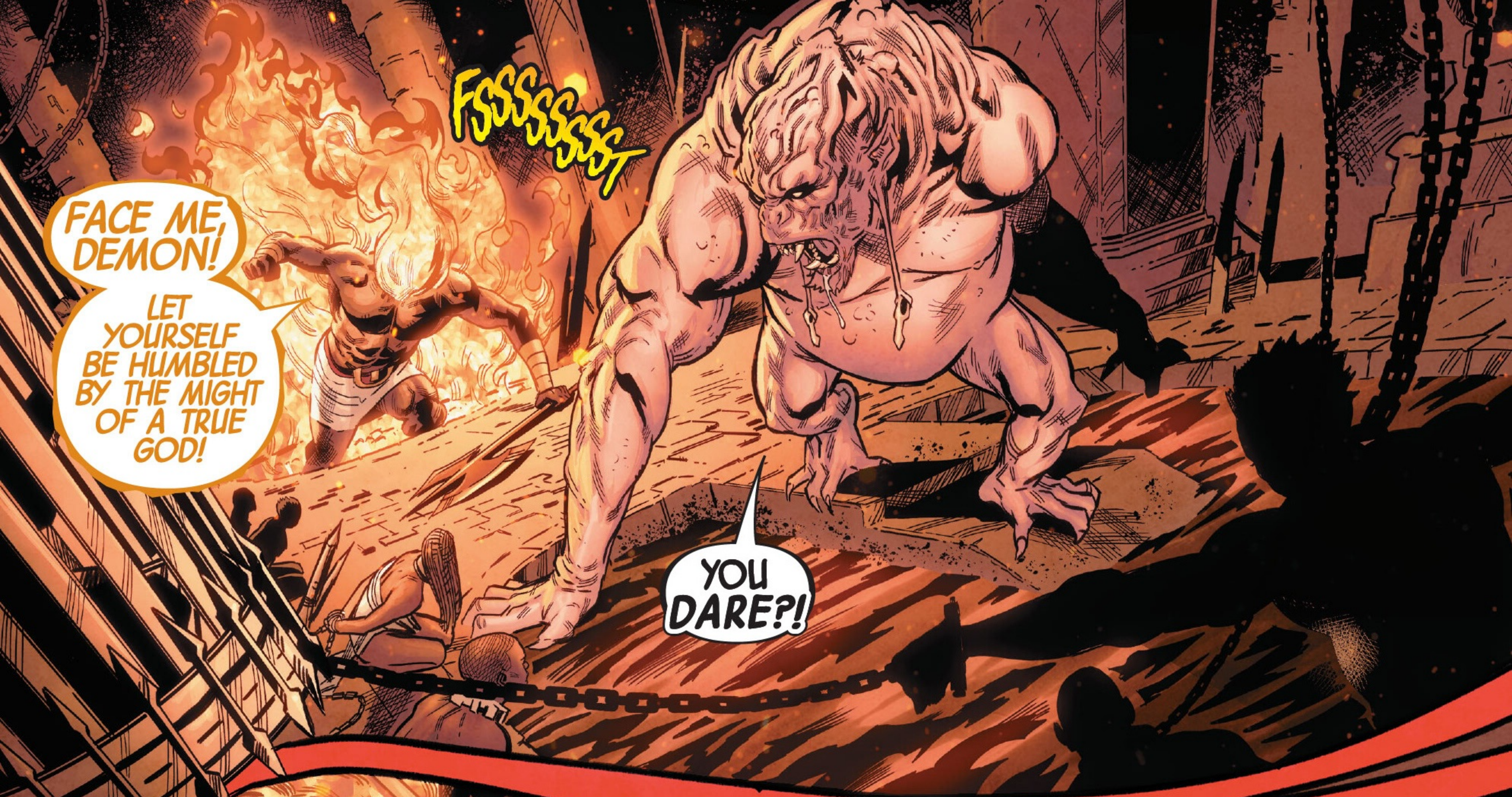
TAKE CARE,
KOKOU!

THE
DEMON HAS
ALREADY SIRED
OFFSPRING?!

NO. THEY
ARE **HUMAN**. DEAD,
BUT ABLE TO ROAM
THE EARTH.

THERE IS
LIGHT INSIDE THE
TEMPLE. A FIRE,
PERHAPS?

IF IT BE
TRUE, THEN
KOKOU WILL
MAKE USE
OF IT!



FACE ME,
DEMON!

LET
YOURSELF
BE HUMBLLED
BY THE MIGHT
OF A TRUE
GOD!

FSSSSSSSS

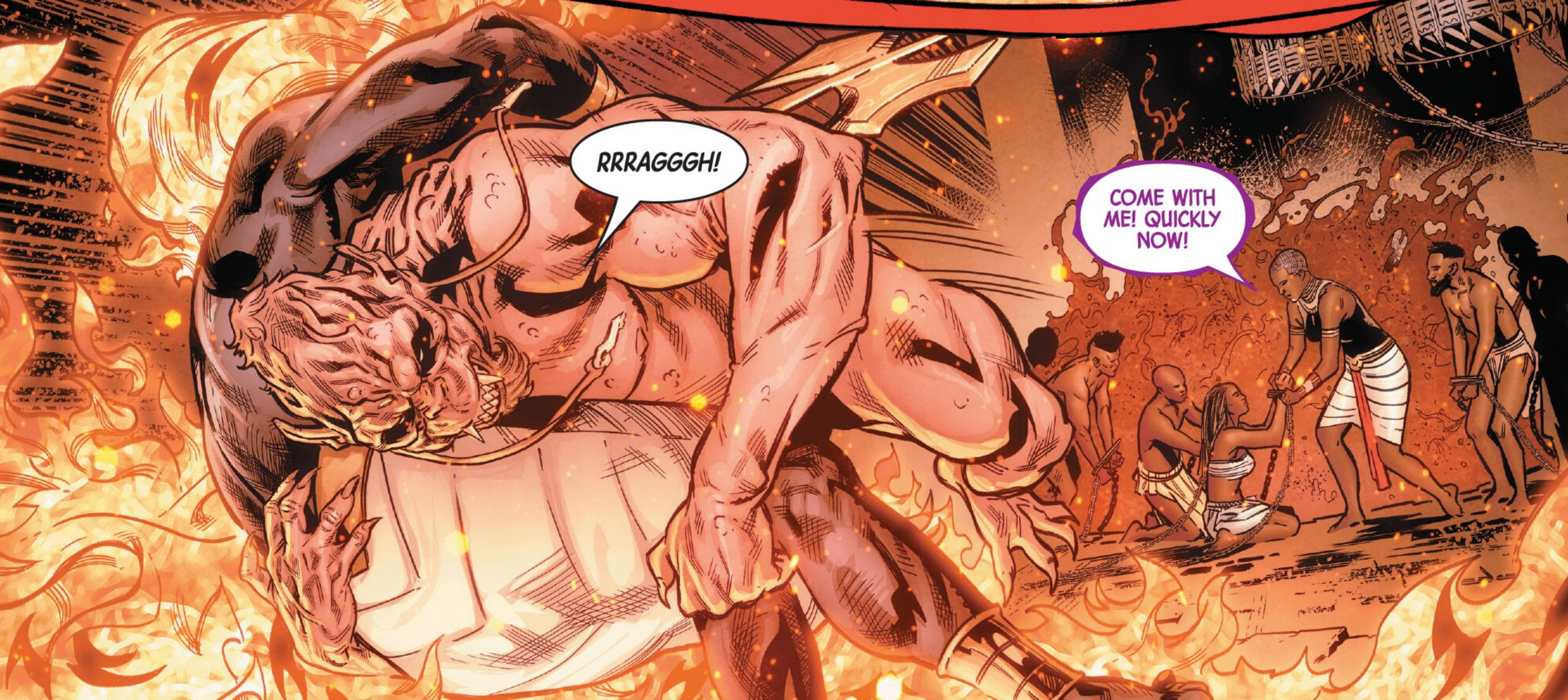
YOU
DARE?!



I WILL
DESTROY YOU!!

FOOL! YOU
CANNOT DESTROY
WHAT IS IMMORTAL!
WHAT YOU WILL NEVER
BE! KOKOU WILL SEE
TO THAT!

FSSSSSSSS



RRRAGGGH!

COME WITH
ME! QUICKLY
NOW!



LISTEN TO ME.
FOR **THREE DAYS**,
YOU WILL FOLLOW THE
PANTHERS **WEST**. FOR
THREE MORE, YOU
WILL **WAIT**. AND THEN
ALL OF YOU WILL
RETURN.

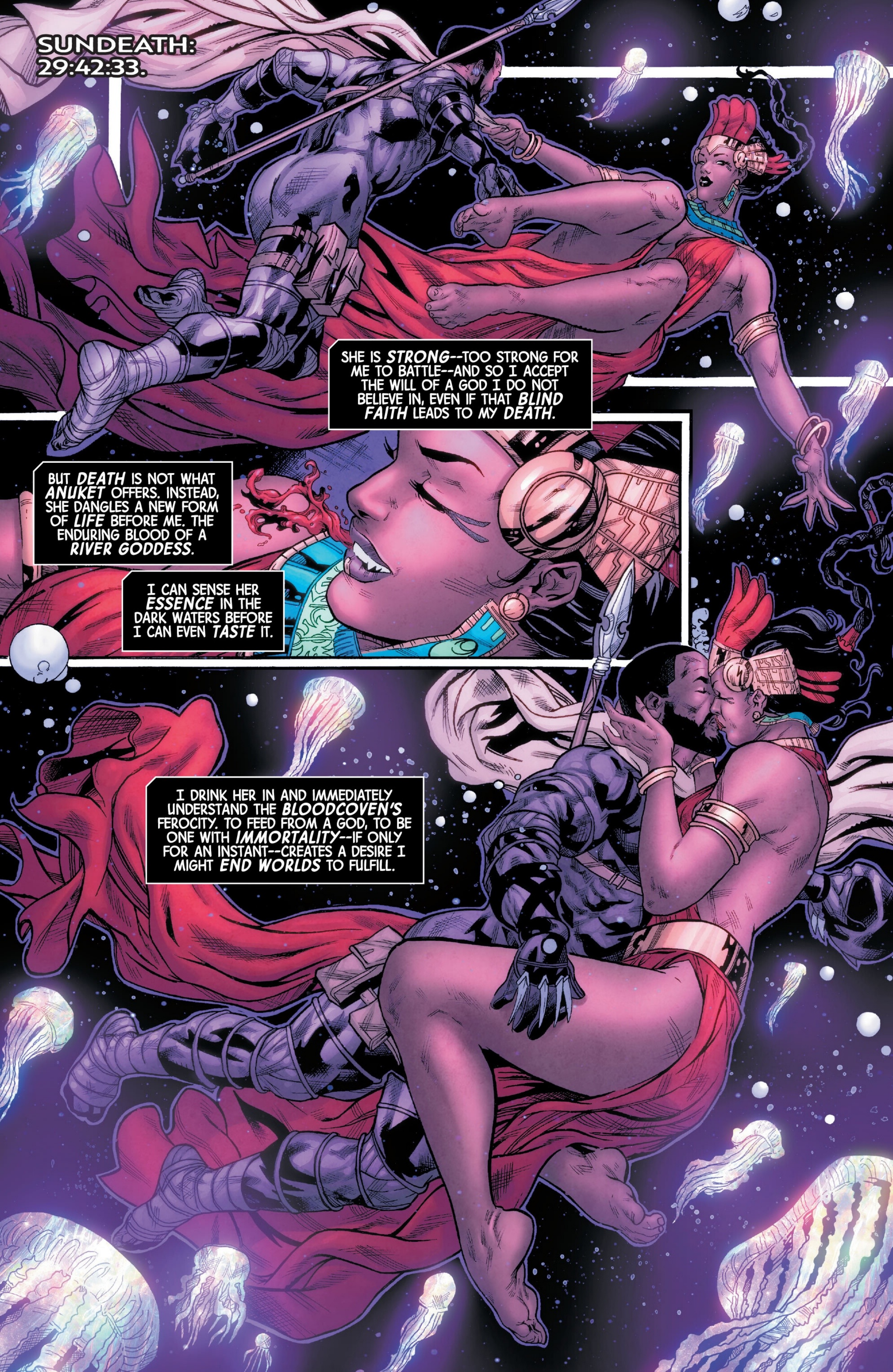
TO
THIS PLACE!
I CAN'T!

YOU **CAN**
AND YOU **WILL**.
BECAUSE I **COMMAND**
YOU TO! AND **BAST**
DOES NOT COMMAND
COWARDS!

TRUST IN ME,
N'YAMI. THE GODS
MAKE A PROMISE TO ALL
OF YOU TONIGHT. THOSE
WHO TILL THIS LAND WILL
NEVER WEAR CHAINS AGAIN!
THE **ENNEAD** AND
THE **ORISHA** WILL
SEE TO THAT.

"FROM THIS DAY FORTH,
WAKANDANS WILL
ALWAYS WALK FREE."

SUNDEATH:
29:42:33.



SHE IS **STRONG**--TOO STRONG FOR ME TO BATTLE--AND SO I ACCEPT THE WILL OF A GOD I DO NOT BELIEVE IN, EVEN IF THAT **BLIND FAITH** LEADS TO MY **DEATH**.

BUT **DEATH** IS NOT WHAT **ANUKET** OFFERS. INSTEAD, SHE DANGLES A NEW FORM OF **LIFE** BEFORE ME. THE ENDURING BLOOD OF A **RIVER GODDESS**.

I CAN SENSE HER **ESSENCE** IN THE DARK WATERS BEFORE I CAN EVEN **TASTE** IT.

I DRINK HER IN AND IMMEDIATELY UNDERSTAND THE **BLOODCOVEN'S** FEROCITY. TO FEED FROM A GOD, TO BE ONE WITH **IMMORTALITY**--IF ONLY FOR AN INSTANT--CREATES A DESIRE I MIGHT **END WORLDS** TO FULFILL.

SHE BREAKS FROM ME, BUT I HAVE ALREADY BEEN *CHANGED*. THE *CRAVING* FOR HER BLOOD HAS *MARKED* ME--BOUND ME TO YET ANOTHER SUPERNATURAL BEING. AND I AM NOT ONE TO EASILY ACCEPT A *LOSS OF CONTROL*.

ANUKET HAS MADE ME *STRONGER*, MORE *RESILIENT*. BUT WHAT I WISH TO BE IS *FREE*.



FREEDOM IS NOT *GIVEN*. IT MUST BE *EARNED*.

WON IN A BATTLE OF *WILLS*.



HALT!

AND MY **BATTLE**
HAS JUST **BEGUN.**

WAKANDAN,
YOU HAVE MADE A
GRAVE MISTAKE
INTRUDING UPON
ATLANTEAN
WATERS!

LEAVE NOW.
OR THIS **TEMPLE**
WILL BE YOUR
TOMB.

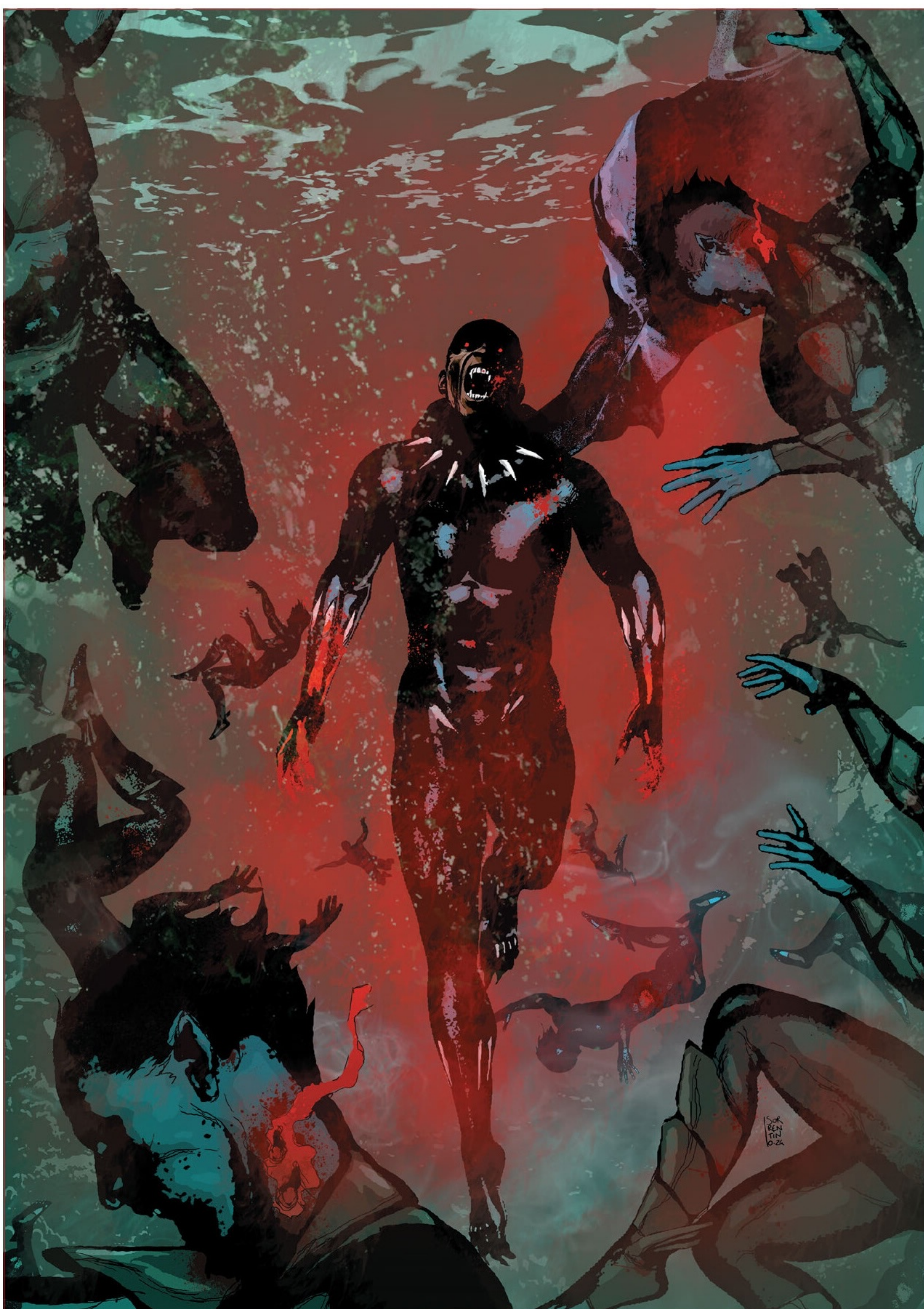
TO BE CONCLUDED.

NEXT:

BLACK PANTHER BLOOD HUNT

3

T'Challa has arrived at the hidden temple...but armed Atlanteans greet him at the door, and they've got the upper hand in an underwater battle! And even if Black Panther successfully claims the temple, what of Varnae's plans? What sabotage does T'Challa have up his sleeve?



EMAIL US AT MHEROES@MARVEL.COM AND MARK YOUR MESSAGES "OKAY TO PRINT" FOR A CHANCE TO SEE THEM ANSWERED IN FUTURE ISSUES!

BLOOD HUNT

CHECKLIST

JUNE

■	BLOOD HUNT #3
■	BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND #3
■	DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #2
■	X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – JUBILEE #1
■	UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #2
■	DOCTOR STRANGE #16
■	VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #6
■	FANTASTIC FOUR #21
■	WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #1
■	BLOOD HUNTERS #2
■	STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #2
■	MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #21
■	VENOM #34
■	AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #2
■	AVENGERS #15
■	BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #2
□	MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #2
□	BLOOD HUNT #4
□	BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND #4
□	X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – MAGIK #1
□	WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #2

JULY

□	BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	BLOOD HUNTERS #3
□	DOCTOR STRANGE #17
□	DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #22
□	WEREWOLF BY NIGHT: BLOOD HUNT #1
□	AVENGERS #16
□	HULK: BLOOD HUNT #1
□	UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	BLOOD HUNTERS #4
□	X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – LAURA KINNEY THE WOLVERINE #1
□	BLOOD HUNT #5
□	BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND #5
□	FANTASTIC FOUR #22
□	MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #3
□	VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #7
□	WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #4